

**Board of Selectmen
May 21, 2018
6:30 pm**

Present:

Mary Blanchard, Chairman
Priscilla Gimas, Vice-Chair
Mary Dowling, Clerk
Michael Suprenant
Chase Kaitbenski
Leon Gaumond, Jr., Town Administrator
Colleen King, Administrative Assistant

Open Session

Chairman Blanchard called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Announcements

- P. Gimas - Moment of Silence for the loss of life from the Santa Fe High School shooting.
- M. Suprenant - John Gendron passed away. He was on the Honor Roll in front of Town Hall and the recipient of two bronze stars: WWII & Battle of Normandy.
- M. Blanchard – Reminder: Memorial Day Parade on Monday 28, Parade routes 148 & 20. Special Events will again be hosting summer Concerts on Common beginning June 14th.

6:35 p.m. Public Hearing: Amendment of Propane Storage Tank License - Osterman Propane on behalf of Publick House - 277 Main St., Sturbridge

Marlene Osterman, and Publick House Manager, Michael Glick were present. The application request is to upgrade propane tank to 10,000 gallon capacity to accommodate heating and hot water for new building.

Motion: I move to close the public hearing. By: P. Gimas

2nd by: M. Suprenant

All in Favor: 5-0

Motion: I move to approve amendment to the existing license for storage tanks for flammable materials as petitioned by the Publick House for 277 Main Street, Sturbridge. By: P. Gimas

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Discussion: Complaint & Dock Permit Application - 46 Burgess School Rd, Sturbridge

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neighbor's dock blocks their access for entrance and exiting. The Jalberts' dock has been in the same location for the past 40 years and pre-dates the Town regulations. The Jalberts' stated that they were told the dock location is part of a 'grandfathered' arrangement. P. Gimás stated that it is the Board's role to try and help neighbors resolve dock issues, but the Board may not be able to regulate property line disputes. M. Dowling stated that the "grandfathered" language the Jalberts' refer to in their complaint has not been provided to the Board of Selectmen and is not in the office files nor is there any such language in our dock regulations. M. Blanchard stated that the Board cannot accept the dock permit application as presented; there are no drawings, square footage, etc. The Town bylaws state that only one dock per property is allowed. The Jalberts' also stated that the left hand side doors of their pontoon boat makes it difficult to negotiate around the new dock placement. L. Gaumond stated that since there seems to be sand bar issues on their side of the lake, perhaps they could consider abandoning the old dock and place/extend a new dock. M. Blanchard stated that if such a plan were considered, the dock cannot exceed 200 feet. Jamie Jalbert stated that the family will look into the idea of extending a new dock, within regulations, to help accommodate the sand bar.

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Motion: I move to appoint Toniah Maloney to the position of full time dispatcher for the Police Department at her current rate of \$23.98 per hour effective May 21, 2018.

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Building Department - Nelson Burlingame

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Motion: I move to approve the increase of department fees as amended by the Building Inspector effective July 1, 2018. By: P. Gimas

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Town Administrator Update:

Financial Statements/Annual Audits

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Motion: I move to acknowledge the receipt of a \$300 donation from the Sturbridge Lions Club.

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Motion: I move to acknowledge receipt of the Annual PEG Access revenue check from Charter Communications. By: P. Gimas

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Motion: I move to present and support a substitute motion as a draft by the Town Administrator and Town Counsel. By: M. Dowling

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M. Suprenant asked about the wording. Need separate motions to place and support. He stated he is willing to place but will not support. Otherwise he will have to vote no on the motion on the table.

Vote: 4-1 opposed (M. Suprenant)

M. Suprenant reported the State may be extending moratorium deadlines according to Massachusetts Selectmen's Association. Still lots of discussion and unknown details for the future regarding this topic.

Approval of Wormtown Milers & Rapscaillon Brewery 5k Race

Motion: I move to concur with the approval by Police Dept of the application for a 5k road race sponsored by Rapscaillon Brewery on August 25, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

By: P. Gimas

2nd by: M. Suprenant

All in Favor: 5-0

Appointments to the Affordable Housing Partnership

The Town Administrator announced four (4) names to fill the vacancies on Affordable Housing Partnership: Margaret Darling, Edmond Neal, Susan Grandone, and Danielle LaRiviere. Their terms will be for three (3) years; ending June 2021. L. Gaumond stated that the first meeting is being planned within next couple of weeks.

Motion: I move to confirm the appointments of: Margaret Darling, Edmond Neal, Susan Grandone, and Danielle LaRiviere to the Affordable Housing Partnership for a term of three (3) years. By: M. Suprenant

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Appointment of Ashley Piascik -Conservation Department

The Conservation Agent along with the Town Administrator both interviewed Ashley Piascik and are recommending she be appointed to the Administrative Assistant position.

Motion: I move to confirm the appointment of Ashley Piascik, as Administrative Assistant to the Conservation Department, effective May 22, 2018 at a rate of pay of \$16.63 per hour.

By: M. Suprenant

2nd by: C. Kaitbenski

All in Favor: 5-0

Presentation of Town Hall Hour Change Study

The Town Administrator presented a Town Hall office schedule change to include a one day a week late night based on the list of Selectmen's goals for the year. The one late night day per week is to allow for greater resident access and service. L. Gaumond outlined a survey he compiled that showed 16 surrounding towns: of those 16 towns; 10 have evening hours, and half are closed on Friday or have reduced Friday hours. L. Gaumond also stated that since the Town Clerk's office has been open until 7:00 p.m. one day a week; he has received positive feedback from residents. Currently, the Sturbridge Town Hall departments are open from 8:00 – 4:00 p.m. daily w/ a one hour lunch.

The proposal offered for the Board is a compilation of employee input with the goal of having everyone in agreement on a schedule. It was decided that Tuesday should be the day to offer late hours; and on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, hours will be 8:00 to 4:30 with 1/2 hour lunches and Fridays will be closed. The proposal also suggested that Boards and Committees who normally meet on Monday consider moving meeting days to Tuesdays to coincide with the late hours already occurring on Tuesdays. The proposal would take place effective July 1. The proposal can be done on a 6 month trial basis. Also, the Town Clerk will switch late hours from Mondays to Tuesday nights.

P. Gimas requested that residents be given an opportunity for input before implementing any change in hours such as through a ballot question at Special Town Meeting. P. Gimas stated her concern about businesses not having Town Hall access on Fridays to resolve issues before the weekend. In addition, she also pointed out that moving Monday meetings to Tuesday is too much of a glut of meetings occurring all at once; plus her teaching schedule this semester will not allow her to attend meetings on Tuesdays. M. Dowling also stated that she is not in support of closing on Fridays. She feels it is more appropriate to stay open late one night; and close Friday afternoons instead. L. Gaumond stated that department heads would always be on call to address potential business closings or other urgent matters on a Friday prior to the weekend.

M. Blanchard stated that a resident survey does not need to be done; she hears from residents already about the need for late hours one day a week. M. Suprenant stated that in his past work experience, Fridays are not a busy time in most town offices. C. Kaitbenski stated he too felt the Town Hall should be open five days a week and would support a half day on Fridays.

Motion: I move to change the staff hours effective July 1 for a 6 month period of time with the following schedule: Tuesdays 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., with 1 hour lunch, and 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. on Fridays.

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P. Gimas added that she would like to have a paper or online survey provided to residents.

Old Business

P. Gimas - inquired about the status of the all alcohol package store license for Lucky Mart. L. Gaumond responded that the State Legislature needed certified certificate of vote from our Town Clerk, and has received it. The Special Legislation application is a late filing, plus it is an election year, and there will be a July recess. Hopefully, everything will go through before the end of the calendar year.

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McGilpin Road Study

L. Gaumond – The Tighe & Bond McGilpin Rd Study has been completed. Copies of the water supply alternatives study were provided to the Board members to authorize the Town Administrator and DPW Director to engage soil borings. State funds will expire end of fiscal year.

Motion: I move to authorize Tighe & Bond to engage in soil borings not to exceed \$40k.

By: M. Suprenant

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All in Favor: 5-0

Correspondence

M. Dowling read into the record the list of correspondence received.

Approval of Minutes for May 7, 2018

Motion: I move to approve the meeting minutes for May 7, 2018 as amended. **By:** P. Gimas

2nd by: C. Kaitbenski

All in Favor: 5-0

Citizens Forum

None

Adjourn

Motion: I move to adjourn the meeting. **By:** P. Gimas

2nd by: C. Kaitbenski

All in Favor: 5-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen J. King, Administrative Assistant

Mary Damm
Date

BOS Clerk

June 20 '18

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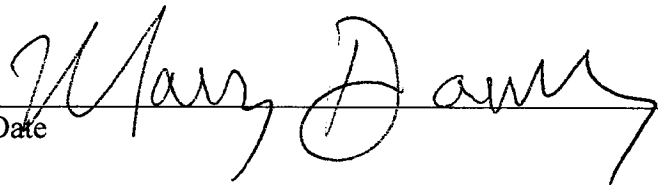
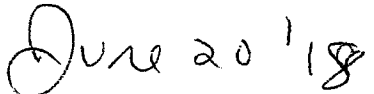
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